

SUBJECTS.

Dewan.—It is not compulsory elsewhere. I fear a change like that will upset the whole arrangement.

Mr. K. M. Mammen Mappila (Member, T. I. C., Thiruvalla).—The bulk of people know only Malayalam. I think it necessary to have two higher classes in the Elementary Schools. That alone will spread education to the majority. In the present condition of things, it is not possible for every one to prosecute English education.

Mr. N. Kumaran Asan (Member, Nominated).—The old Vernacular Higher Examination should be revived. The text-books prescribed for that examination when it existed were of the standard prescribed for the B. A. Degree. The men who passed that test are some of the best Malayalam scholars we have now. One or two more classes should also be opened.

Dewan's reply.—A committee will be appointed to enquire into and report on the whole question.

116. The desirability of starting
Technical Schools in important
centres of the State.

Mr. V. S. Krishna Pillai (Member, Thiruvalla taluk) said that the importance of Technical education being admitted on all hands, it was not necessary to dwell at length on its imperative need in the State. Technical education was of vital importance to the poverty stricken people of the country. The subject had been, of late, taken up earnestly by the Government of India and the leaders of thought among the British Indians. It was therefore to be regretted that there was no move in that direction in the State. The people of Travancore had to depend for their subsistence entirely on the scanty bounty of unassisted nature and also on Government appointments. Though the Administration Report of 1087 made mention of 13 Technical Schools in the State, it would not be disputed that not one of them was worthy of the name. The Member was of opinion that, in the present state of affairs, the Government could not remain quiet. The people of the country would not move in any direction unless they were made to move. The masses did not understand the value of Technical education and could not be expected to come forward and start schools themselves. It was for the Government to extend that helping hand to the blind public. The starting of Technical Schools was all the more necessary at present in view to the circumstance that a vast number of young men were left adrift without any chance of prospects by the stringent rules of the Education Code. The pure "granted" certificate holders could not seek Government employment. Very often, many of them had no chances of admission to the College also. Many of those who had failed in the examination were unable to continue their studies. All such men would have an opportunity to work for their own benefit and the benefit of the country, if Technical Schools were started in all the important centres of the State, at least one in each of the four Revenue Divisions. He therefore requested that the Government might be pleased to give the question the attention that it deserved.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.